

The Reclamation of the Redwood Lands

---W. T. Fitch

The  
NORTHERN CROWN



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September, 1905.

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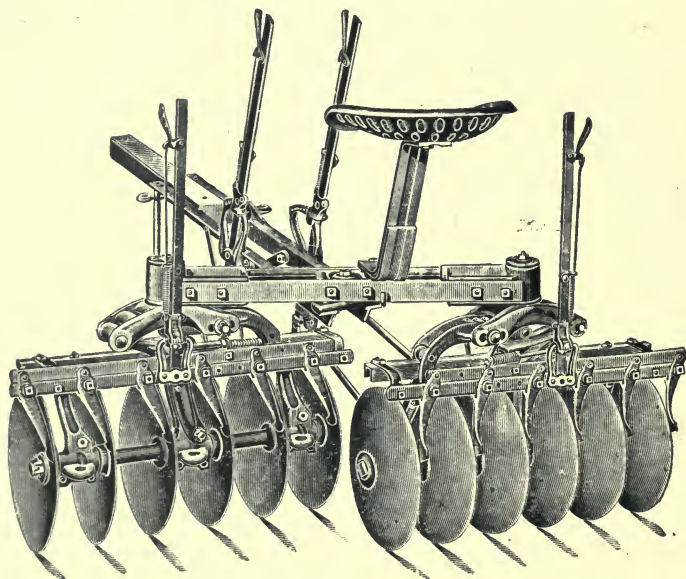
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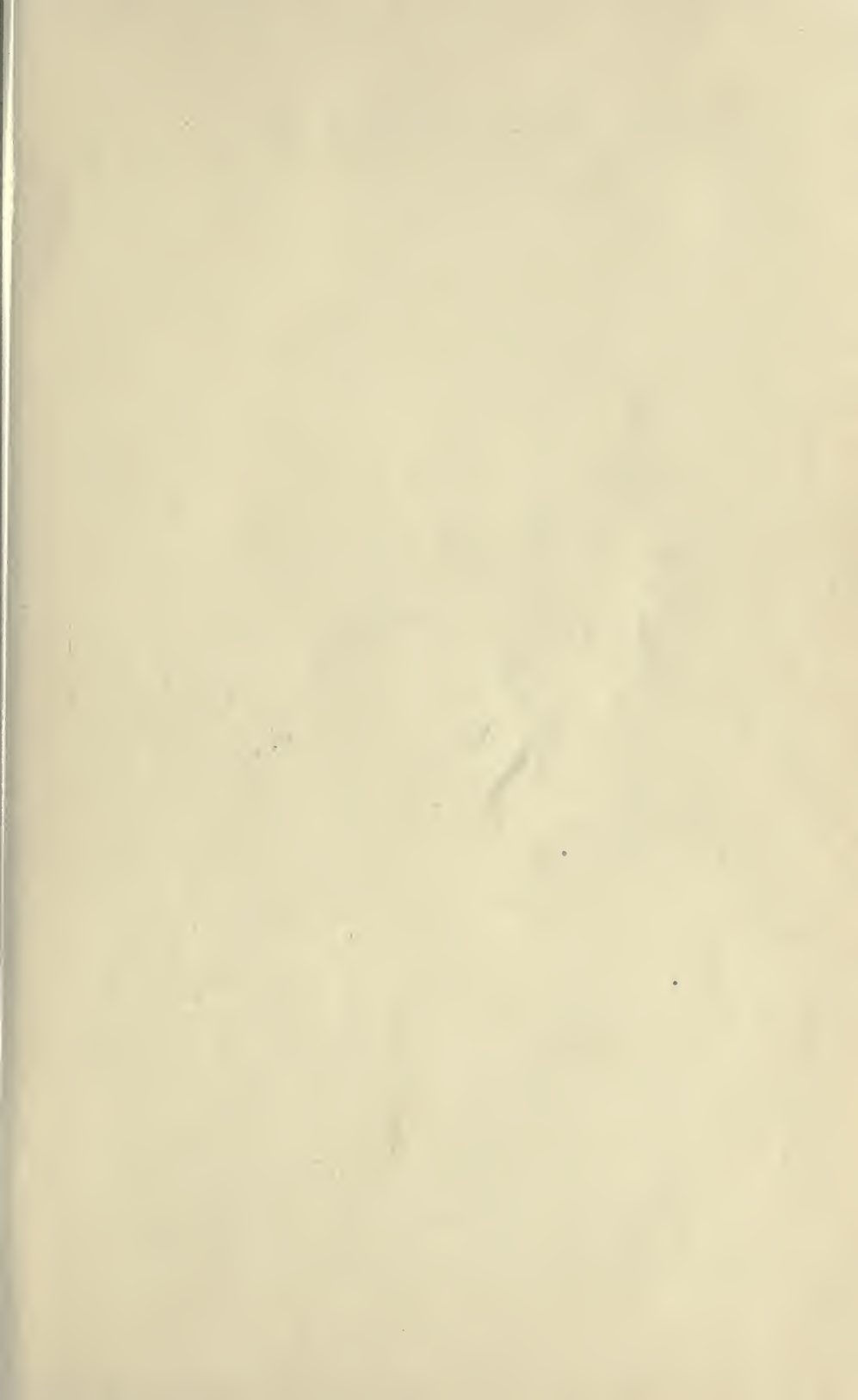
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A Fallen Giant.

[Photo by Carpenter







# The Northern Crown

"Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness."

VOL. II.

UKIAH, CAL., SEPTEMBER, 1905.

NO. 4.

## Reclamation of Redwood Lands

BY W. T. FITCH

By the Destruction of Our Redwood Forests a Rich Domain Is Being  
\* \* \* \* \* Opened Up to the Settler and Investor. \* \* \*

### INTRODUCTORY.

The question of the disposition to be made of the vast tracts of fertile land left in the wake of the lumberman, is coming to be one of prime importance to us all. Especially to homeseekers, for these lands seem richly provided with the natural endowment to such a desirable end.

The lessons that are being taught the dwellers in our large cities, and those interested in their welfare, that the sweatshop is not the ideal, if it is, the "strenuous life" is beginning to bear fruit. And many practical colonization schemes conducted under the limelight of the press and free from fraud are the result.

The frauds practiced upon the honest homeseeker in the recent past by the graftious promoter have been many and discouraging, withal. But through the hard work of many public spirited citizens, many men of wealth and philanthropic purpose are lending their assistance to bona fide homeseekers, who desire a home for their old age, beneath the veritable vine and fig tree of the Golden State.

The thousands who, with "great expectations," leave the rural districts each year to mingle with the throngs of striving humanity in our large cities, and who, later, are cast up on the shore of pauperism and criminality, may well give us concern. And whoever shall help even a little to turn back this tide to its legitimate habitat, should be regarded as a public benefactor. It is therefore, the pur-

pose of this article to bring to the notice of the public spirited, the investor and the home-seeker, the advantages awaiting development in the redwood belt of the coast, especially of Mendocino, Humboldt and adjoining counties, that are now being denuded of their beautiful forests, as a future home for many thousand needy sons of man.

### PART FIRST.

In echoing canyons, on rocky hill-sides, and on lofty ridges and plateaus, the majestic hosts of the sequoia, rooted into the very crevices of the eternal rocks, have stood for ages.

Remaining from the primal epoch, there are many trees yet standing that were a thousand years old on the memorable night when those watching their flocks saw the typical glory of a yet, even to us, far distant kingdom, illumine the heavens. And their lofty branches echoed the sounds when the "stars sang together in the early morning, and the sons of God shouted for joy."

Springing from the newly made soil of the young earth, they still stand, inspiring monuments to the time when even man was said to attain great age.

Sufficient unto themselves stood these forest giants, perfect as from the hand of God. While about their base the timid deer browsed, and adjacently the bear whetted his claws aggressively, and with sinister meditation, upon its rugged bark.

Through the dim aisles among the towering trees there reigns a grand silence. The footfall makes no sound on the soft deep carpet of needles, the accumulated result of the labor of countless seasons. Not a bird note or challenge of saucy squirrel breaks the absolute silence, save that, as one approaches a mountain stream, the gentle contented purling of the waters breaks gradually, clearer as we draw near, filling the air, and echoing through the forest its musical chatter, as grateful as the previous silence had been. Lying prone upon its mossy bank, we quaff the cold, clear water gratefully, and note the busy little stream where it disappears among moss-covered rocks, overhung with giant ferns, as it hastens onward to the blue Pacific, miles away.

We are beguiled by the grandeur about us to forget for the time the past, and all our cares that oppress, and to give ourselves over to enjoyment of such a conception of Edenic purity as has fallen to the lot only of the traveller who has journeyed into a redwood forest. To others our words can have but a poor significance.

But a new sound disturbs the stillness. The ring of the ax, the labored puffings of the engines, and the crashing, echoing roar of falling forest giants, proclaim the destroyer of this veritable paradise.

Thousands of acres of timber fall, to accommodate the needs of a fast-advancing civilization. And in the wake of the relentless destroyer, what do we find?

Great tracts of land covered with mutely pathetic stumps where the giant trees once stood, and surrounding them a litter of tree tops and small logs, and the incident debris. Here and there stands a tree disdained by the lumber hungry—testifying, not to the mercy of the axman, but to a wind-shake or a decayed heart, which rendered it unfit for lumber.

There are also considerable tracts of pine timber from which only the best trees have been selected. Contrary however, to what you would naturally expect, the lumberman leaves a vast amount of timber behind him in the form of trees too small, or otherwise unavailable for his use. Of this, more later:

#### AVAILABLE LAND.

There are 600,000 acres of redwood

timber land in Mendocino county alone. And of this a large proportion will one day be under successful cultivation, while the balance will afford pasturage for countless cattle and sheep.

This region has an abundance of resources; but as in all new districts, these natural offerings to the support of man must be developed co-ordinately. Each step must be supported by a similar one in the interdependent part. Instance: That a coal mine, for example, is of no value unless the product can be marketed at a profit. Etc.

The natural obstacles that lie in the path of the pioneer must be met and overcome. And hereinafter will be found much information, such as we can command, set forth in detail. And further, we shall try to be exact in all our statements, so that the reader may place dependance upon such information as we shall endeavor to impart. But we most earnestly request all those who are minded to follow this matter up, to see for themselves before moving in the matter.

Firmly believing that there is a highly prosperous future before the redwood belt, after its treasures of lumber have been removed, we will examine its resources in detail, keeping especially in mind that this is not a "boom" article, but one calculated to furnish information about a matter not heretofore touched upon—a compilation of facts concerning a new field of endeavor.

What we shall say of that portion of the redwood belt lying in Mendocino county, is equally true of that in Marin, Sonoma, Humboldt, and Del Norte. The central and western part of the redwood belt in this section is drained by the Gualala, Garcia, Navarro, Albion, Big River, Caspar, Noyo and Ten Mile rivers, and by smaller streams, and the eastern part by the tributaries of the Russian river. The valleys along these streams are not wide, but they are exceedingly fertile. Here and there they widen out into valleys of considerable extent. Anything will grow, yielding abundant crops—from whiskers, on through the animal and vegetable kingdoms, and back again. In the main, however, the redwood country is rough and mountainous. Most suitable to sheep and cattle ranches, although there is ample room for fruit, grain, and veg-

eties.

Every year vast tracts of tillable land are denuded of the select timber (a large amount of small timber is left standing) and left behind, as the lumber companies on the coast hew their way inland. And in the valleys, on "benches," up on the sidehills, on wide plateaus upon the ridges, are inviting spots for happy and prosperous homes for those with a little capital, and lots of muscle. For there are roads to build, fences to construct, and land to clear of stumps and undergrowth. But never did the pioneer labor under better conditions—taken as a whole. Nor do we speak unadvisedly. For we propose to give you instances of what has been and is being done on cleared redwood land by parties that have come under our direct observation. And while under this head we wish to say to the lumber companies of the coast that they have it in their power to help many an honest man to a home, if, instead of asking all that the land is worth, they would sell for a merely nominal sum, say every other section, to actual settlers.

This would enhance the value of the remaining land so that they would lose nothing by the operation, but would have a good deed to their credit.

The present figure for redwood lands, is, however, reasonable, and such lands will constantly increase in value.

There is, however, at the present time, a considerable supply of land, easy of access, and of great fertility, awaiting the man with a reasonable amount of capital, who wishes to lay the foundations for future prosperity. And the lumber companies are constantly adding to this field.

Many men who went into the redwoods as loggers have seen the possibilities before them, and, with their savings, have purchased tracts of land and established themselves as independent farmers. One may see their dwellings far up on the ridges, perched on the ridges, or nestling among the timber along the water-courses.

And now we will consider specifically the conditions under which the settler lives, and what advantage he takes of his surroundings.

#### CLIMATE AND SOIL.

The redwood forests are situated mainly on the western slopes of the coast range, and in this position the climate is surprisingly equable, the range of temperature being very slight the year round. It is not surprising, then, that many who have had wide experience should say that this section has the finest climate in the world. The soil is a clay loam, varied in places by a sandy loam; but in all cases exceedingly fertile. This fact, we judge, will be fully appreciated when we say that a wide range of products will grow in it, and attain to unusual development. Side by side with the palm of the south land will be found the humble "spud," yielding from six to eight tons to the acre; sweet potatoes, five to seven tons; wheat as hay, two and a half to three and a half tons; melons, six to seven tons; while apples, prunes, plums, pears, peaches, grapes, all varieties of nuts and all kinds of berries attain to perfection. (See head "Markets.")

But before the harvest comes the planting. And one finds before him, if he would achieve success, many obstacles. First the land must be cleared of standing and fallen timber brush and vines, etc. The brush and other lumberers of the ground are thrown about the stumps and burned. This accomplishes two things—destroying useless debris, and killing many of the stumps. The redwood stump remains alive long after the tree is cut down, and new shoots spring up around it. These shoots, called "suckers," give the ranchman some trouble to keep them down, for the redwood tree lives up to its name, "ever-living," to a surprising degree. Even after the stump is partly consumed, the roots continue to send up new shoots from year to year, until it is finally grubbed out. The work of finally grubbing out the stumps is reduced more than one-half if they are allowed to remain for a few years to rot after being burned. And this can readily be done, as the spaces between can be used for raising grain, etc., or for pasturage. This latter is highly recommended, as the common procedure. For the ground, before the first planting, is "sour"—viz: in an acid state, from the acid roots of the redwood. And to overcome this a dressing may be applied

directly, or cattle or sheep may be pastured on the land for a year or so, this latter giving the best results. Then there is fencing to be done, and roads to be built. So that one must work persistently in order to lay a successful foundation for future prosperity.

#### NATURAL ADVANTAGES.

As has been stated, the redwood timber country is rough and mountainous, about one-third of its area being available for agriculture, and the remaining two-thirds eminently suitable for cattle and sheep raising. Next in the scale of importance come the problems of fuel and water. In these two items this section is especially blessed. From the hillsides and canyons flow innumerable springs of pure cold water, which varies little in temperature throughout the year. Here each may have a complete water works system of his own at trifling cost. A hundred feet or so of iron pipe laid to a spring on a higher level gives ample pressure, and provides abundant water for all purposes, rendering all modern conveniences and sanitary arrangements available.

The matter of fuel is also easy of solution. In fact, there is wood "to burn," for with ample timber left by the lumberman as undesirable, such as small redwood, pine and spruce, trees somewhat rotted at the heart, those broken in falling, or otherwise rendered unfit for lumber, one has a sufficient quantity of timber for fuel, fencing, etc., to last a lifetime.

With an ample rainfall, a fine climate, good soil, pure water, pure air, and good health as a result of these, what may not one accomplish?

#### MINERAL SPRINGS.

Throughout this section there are also, in addition to the abundant supply of pure water, a large number of mineral springs. Soda, sulphur, and all kinds of combinations of these and other chemicals in both hot and cold solutions, come from the crevices of the rocks, specially and marvelously prepared in nature's laboratory for the cure of diseases. Many really wonderful cures of cases given up to die have been reported from the various sanitariums established here, and the best part of it is that most of them are true. Many delightful summer resorts have been established in the

redwoods, and are each season largely taken advantage of by those seeking relaxation, as well as a physical restoration. Thus contributing to the material advancement of the country, and to the physical well being of all. And the future will see a far greater use made of nature's bounty in this direction; for there are many springs now disregarded, and many as yet undiscovered, that will one day be a considerable factor in our civilization.

#### STOCK-RAISING AND DAIRYING.

Cattle and sheep raising and the manufacture of butter are growing and profitable industries in the redwood belt. Thousands of cattle, sheep, swine, etc., and millions of pounds of the finest butter have found their way to outside markets from this section during the past year. And the volume of the output is constantly increasing, at good prices.

Good range land can be had at from \$3 to \$10 per acre, according to location.

Red and white clover, soft broom grass, alfalfa, and numerous other wild grasses flourish, and it is seldom necessary or advisable to seed down ranges; but in some locations it is desirable and profitable. Alfalfa or any of the eastern grasses grow well. Wheat, oats, or alfalfa are plentiful for hay, and yield well—often enormously.

The average allowance of land for pasturage, is four acres per head for cattle, and one acre per head for sheep. This is a conservative estimate. The mountain cattle are a hardy race, and require much less attention than the lowland cattle. Here, also, cattle live largely on browse—viz: the tender shoots of the different deciduous trees and shrubbery. The same on which the deer feed and find an eminently satisfactory diet. Also, every canyon, no matter how small, has its stream of clear, pure water, or numerous springs where the cattle, like the wild deer of the forest, drink whenever nature calls.

#### FENCING

Experience has proven that the best method of fencing is to split up the butt-logs of redwood trees into stakes seven feet long, and about three by three inches in size.

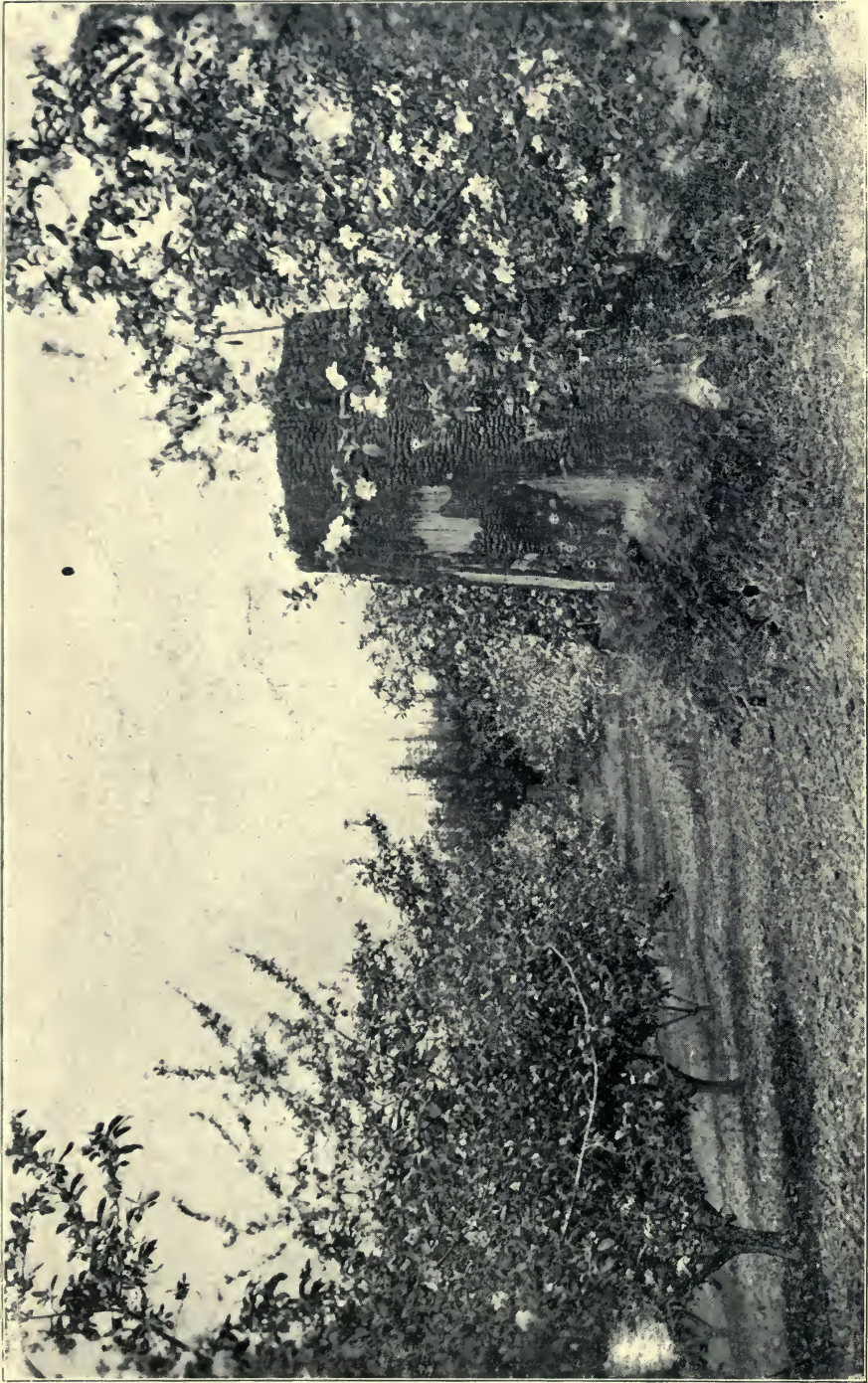
These are driven into the ground about about four inches apart, and



Victor Herbert's Home and Orchard, Albion River Lands.



A Home in the Redwoods.



Apple Orchard in the Redwoods Detail view of the largest Orchard in the state. Note the Redwood stumps and timber in background [Photo by Fitch.]





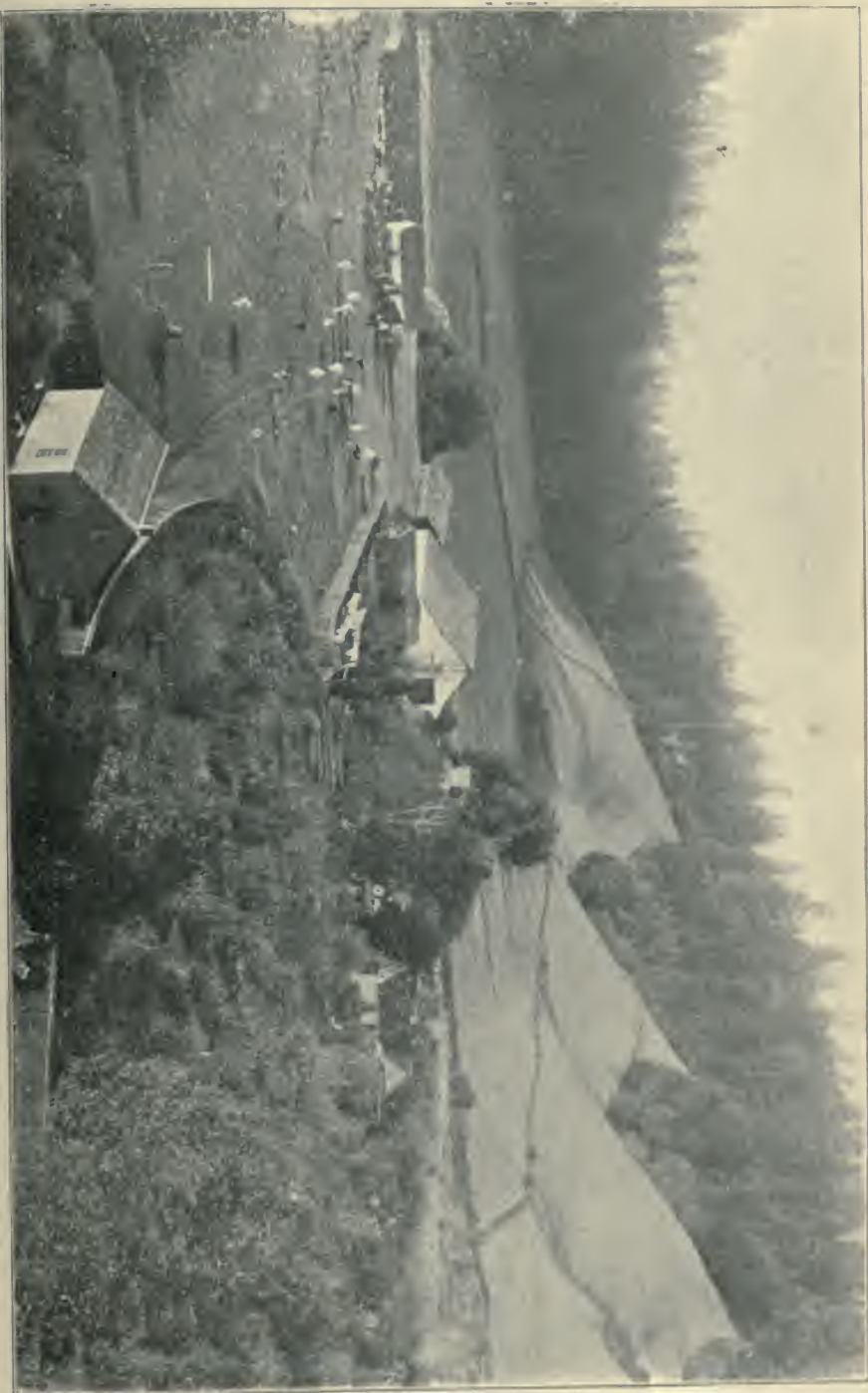
A Strawberry Farm in the Redwoods, Note the Redwood stumps, the Water-supply system, and the fine appearance of the Vines. This place brings a revenue of fifteen hundred dollars a year. [Photo by Fitch]



John Myring's Home and Orchard, Albion River Lands.

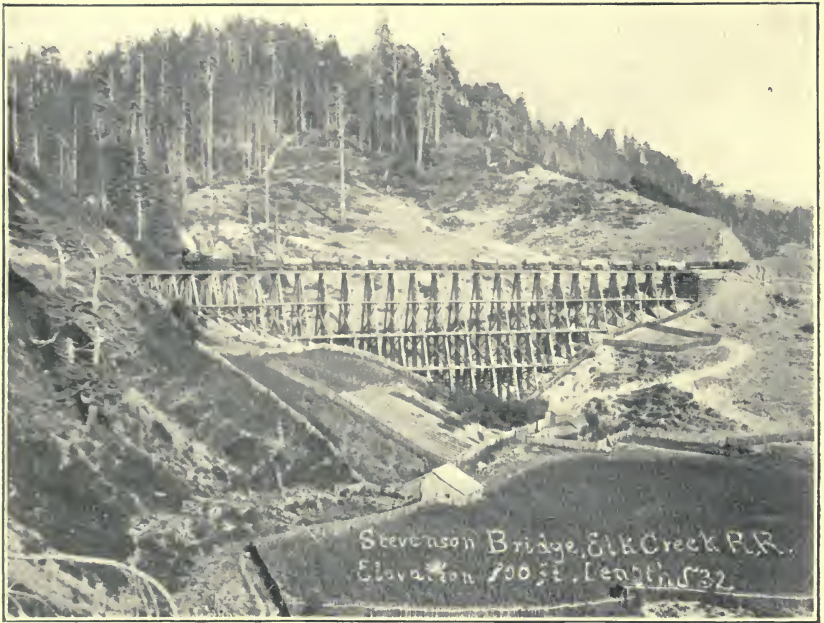


Home of N. E. Hoak, on Albion River Lands.



A Fruit and Dairy Ranch in the Redwoods.

[Photo by Carpenter.]



Stevenson Bridge, Elk Creek Railroad, Elevation 100 feet Length 532 feet.



On the Beautiful Noyo.

held in line at the top by a one by four board nailed one foot from the top, or by a double wire device that is still more effective. This fence costs about \$150.00 per mile, and such a fence will resist fire and climate for a long period of years.

For range purposes it has been found best to leave the land just as it is found, except that the "suckers" or shoots from the redwood stumps must be cut down or they will speedily overshadow the ground and prevent the proper growth of grasses. These shoots must be cut down about once in eight years, and this costs about forty cents per acre, or five cents per acre per year. The redwood shoots and other undesirable growths should be cut as stated and when dry they should be piled and burned. In fact it is best to burn over the entire range.

After this it is well to allow the range to rest for one year, to allow the humus, or richness of the ground to reform. It will be found expedient also, to sow a little grass seed here and there during the first few years; but this is not always done.

Sheep double in value every year. The chief enemies of the sheep raiser are the wild cat and the coyote, but these pests will grow fewer, however, as the country is settled up. Cattle do best near the coast, and sheep farther back. Scattered along the coast are numerous creameries—all prospering. In fact this industry will keep pace with cattle raising, and is now only in its infancy. Sonoma, Mendocino, Humboldt and Del Norte counties are the "straw" creamery districts of the world. And from the Eel river country alone, was shipped last year, six million pounds of the finest butter.

#### FRUIT RAISING

"Mendocino county will one day supply the entire state with apples."  
—San Francisco Chronicle.

For the culture of fruit, nuts and berries of all kinds, the soil of the redwood land is preeminently fitted. Notably, apples, pears and berries. One of the largest apple orchards in the state is situated in this county, on cleared redwood land, and the 1904 crop from 5000 trees was marketed for \$25,000.

It is predicted that this year the crop will bring \$35,000 and in 1906

the orchard will reach its best bearing, and the crop will undoubtedly bring \$50,000. Some of the fruit from this orchard was shipped to Europe and brought the very highest prices. For, in addition to being of fine flavor and appearance, the apples from this section are never wormy, nor are they affected by any of the apple diseases common in other localities. Apple raising will one day be a very extensive industry in this section, and those who ought to know say that the time will never come when the supply will equal the demand. Therefore, plant orchards. All varieties of berries attain to unusual perfection. The chief reason, aside from soil, is that one has here in the mountains, an abundant supply of water. But as a money making proposition the strawberry is easily first. And among the illustrations in this article will be seen one of a strawberry farm eight miles from the coast on the Noyo river. Some of the largest of the redwood stumps have been left standing, as too formidable to be profitably removed, considering the space they occupy. Also the water supply system, consisting of wooden troughs running from the spring to small tanks situated at intervals over the farm. From these, pipes run in various directions, and end in hydrants where hose is attached to run sprinklers. And this effective irrigation system costs very little, and is permanent. On this farm last year (1904) three-fourths of an acre of mature strawberry plants yielded 12,500 pounds of berries, which sold for \$900.00. Strawberries bear from late in April, to late August, and yield quite as well where planted on "benches" upon the mountain sides, as in the valleys. Melons and vegetables also yield astonishingly. The local markets consume all the strawberry crop, and several times the quantity now raised here, could be marketed at good prices. Therefore, it is only a matter of railroad connection with outside markets when strawberry raising will be carried on on a large scale. All ranches in this district have abundance of all kinds of fruit for home consumption, as it is too easily raised to be neglected.

#### HAY AND GRAIN

Little grain is grown owing to the limited area suitable for this purpose, and of this by far the greater part is

cut early for hay. All the hay grown is consumed locally, and the rancher can always rely on a good price for his surplus.

### MARKETS

Railroad building through this section has proceeded slowly owing to the slow development of the country, and the enormous cost of building through a mountainous region. But the chief factor in this slow growth of transportation facilities inland, is the fact that the coasting steamers can carry lumber to market far cheaper than it can be transported by rail. There are, however, three lines building through the redwood region, and the rails laid by the lumber companies up the numerous streams will all ultimately connect with the main lines. When this occurs, a wonderful impetus will be given to the new industries that will in the end replace that of lumbering. Therefore, land in the redwood belt is sure to increase in value: keeping, in a measure, pace with increased transportation facilities. Some of the old settlers have said to us, "Get forty acres of good land and stick to it, and you will succeed. Do not undertake too much." And we believe this to be wisdom.

### IN CONCLUSION

Since this article was begun, a com-

pany has been formed in a certain section of the redwood belt, and having purchased the cut-over lands of a certain lumber company, is now selling in convenient tracts to settlers. In their prospectus they say in reference to their lands: "Good land; good climate; no irrigation; no alkali; no malaria; no intense heat. Good dairy and chicken country; especially adapted for apples, berries and truck raising." This part, at least, we can vouch for as correct; depending though on markets.

About one year ago when we began collecting material for this article it was evident that a movement of home-seekers would result when the attention of capital should have been turned toward the possibilities for them in the matter. And we had thought to forestall them. But as this movement has begun, we can only say to the interested that the information contained in the foregoing pages may be relied upon so far as our knowledge goes—as against any prospectus now extant, or to be issued in the future.

And again we would say to those who contemplate settling here, **look the ground over before purchasing.**

NOTE:—We are indebted to H. F. Milliken, Louis Gonsalves and others for much of the information contained in the foregoing pages. W. F. FITCH..



A LODGE IN THE REDWOODS.



WALT WHITMAN

## Walt Whitman.

By D. W. Ravenscroft.

Between the rifted clouds of somber  
years

Thy fancies fell like sifted summer  
shine—

With many a sturdy stroke and rug-  
ged line—

And sympathy that brought the world  
to tears.

And now thy voice is still, but not thy  
song;

For while the course of Nature up-  
ward trends,

Thy modest measure still will find  
the friends—

The winnowed wheat from out the  
passing throng.

They drink thoughts deep, that thrill  
their yearning heart,

And open Inspiration's purest  
spring;

For draughts like these will teach  
them how to sing,

And smooth the way for dire Misfor-  
tune's smart.

Others may strive upon thy lute to  
play,

Lured by Ambition to thy higher  
plane;

But few can hope that altitude to  
gain,

Unless they note the guide-posts of  
thy way.

And through their lips their very souls  
must sing.

Beyond the curtain of Time's quiet  
end

We watched thee pass—king, poet,  
man and friend.

The heart will find the music in thy  
string.

# The Redwoods of Mendocino



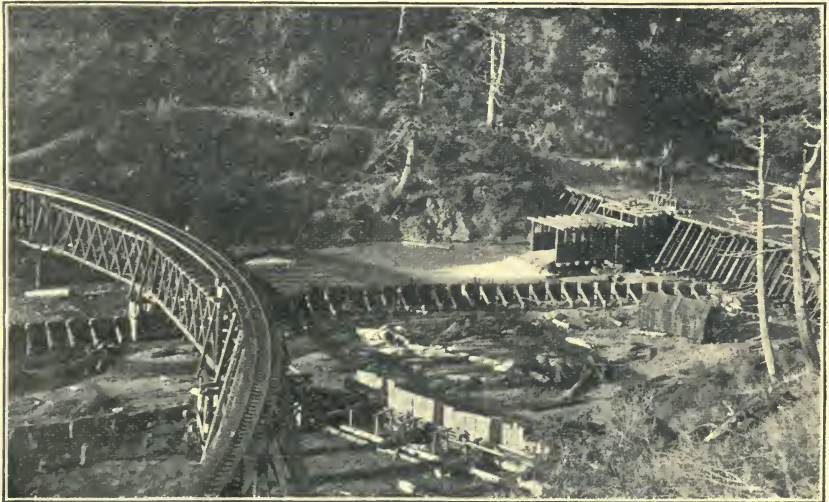
✻ ✻ ✻ ✻ ✻ By Anna Morrison Reed ✻ ✻ ✻ ✻ ✻

Republished from THE NORTHERN CROWN of April, 1904, by request.

Here are the beautiful Redwood trees,  
They have marched in phalanxes down to  
the seas,  
To stand enchanted in Nature's plan,  
'Till vanquished at last by the hand of man.

The great belt of redwood timber standing inland from the 120 miles of sea coast, on the western border of

industry. The natural waterways, for a time, giving transportation for the nearest redwood, which was cut from canyons, ravines and hillsides, and floated to the mill near the harbor and then the finished product loaded upon the waiting schooners for a more distant transportation to markets on the southern coasts, the far east, and



How Truss Bridge near Mouth of Elk Creek—Spans, 95 Feet; Curvature 18 Degrees.

Mendocino, covering 600,000 acres of the country's surface, and worth at a conservative estimate, as much or more than the assessed value of the whole state, constitutes our greatest source of natural wealth.

For more than forty years, where the numerous rivers of Mendocino reach and flow into the sea, towns have sprung into existence, supported chiefly by sawmills and the lumbering

elsewhere.

The Gualala, the Garcia, the Navarro, the Albion, Little river, Big river, the Caspar, the Noyo and many other smaller streams have from time to time, or simultaneously, been the mediums of this gigantic traffic in ventures that involved millions of capital. Yet so inexhaustible was the supply from our great forests that still thousands of acres are covered with virgin





Mill and Town of Greenwood.



T. P. SMYTHE

Ex-county Surveyor and Civil Engineer for the L. E. White Lumber Co.



Transporting Piling—Earlier Mode of Transportation.



Waiting for the Freshet, Earliest Mode of Transportation. [Photo by Carpenter.]



Logging Train on Big River Railroad, Picturesque Mendocino.

timber.

But the days of simpler transportation are over. The drift of the current and the later ox teams have been superseded by donkey engine and the endless cable, and many miles of railroad reach the remoter bodies of redwood, while the rush and roar of the iron horse echoes from canyon to hill and his startling scream proclaims



Donkey Engine Drawing Logs First Landing by Cable.

that he is present master of the situation.

Greenwood, at the mouth of Greenwood creek, leads as one of the milling towns. It was named for the five Greenwood brothers who located there in 1851.

The company operating at present is known as the L. E. White Lumber Co. Something like 20 years ago, through their superintendent and manager, W. H. White, the Greenwood plant was bought and the business carried on by him until four years ago. W. H. Talt is now president of the company, Mrs. Helen P. Drew, formerly Mrs. Will H. White,

is the principal owner and E. B. Salsig has been in charge about one year as superintendent and general manager.

The survey of the Elk creek railroad was made in 1888 under direction of T. P. Smythe, surveyor and civil engineer, and for many years county surveyor of Mendocino county. His work on the Elk creek railroad gives evidence that he is master of his vocation. The trestles and bridges on this line are graceful in construction and unsurpassed in their strength and utility. Mr. Smythe has given his time and skill in work for this company for more than twenty years and the result is the admiration of all competent judges. Notable in the construction of the Elk creek line is the Howe truss bridge over the creek near the coast end of the railroad. In its two spans of ninety-five feet each there is eighteen degrees curvature and it is as artistic and accurate in its fittings as a piece of clock work and as beautiful to those who understand the perfection of such things. The cuts appearing with this article will give proof of these assertions and to the eye of intelligence and skill will speak more eloquently and convincingly than any words of praise. The main line of the Elk Creek railroad extending from Greenwood follows the



Loading Log Train by Cable.

coast around a high bluff near the ocean, then striking the natural grade up Elk creek to its present terminus,

## THE NORTHERN CROWN

about sixteen miles from Greenwood, thus reaching the divide between Elk and Alder creeks. And the company are now grading toward Alder creek. With all its branches there is probably thirty miles of track laid and the



North Fork Trestle 130 feet high, 484 feet long—company owns many thousands of acres of the best redwood land. The capacity of the mill, with all modern appliances, is 100,000 feet of lumber for the day's run. There are never less than 500 men employed. This giant plant has accomplished stupendous work, and has more to accomplish, and yet is but one in a score or more of just such colossal enterprises on the coast side of Mendocino county.

Of all the trees that grow in the forests of the world the redwood has the strongest hold on life. Its vitality is marvelous, and the evidence must be seen to be fully understood. Saplings will sprout from the side of a fallen tree and growing rapidly throw out roots over and under the fallen log, pinning it down until in course of time the old wood is absorbed in a

new growth. From twelve to thirty young trees spring up around each mother stump and if spared by ax and fire are marketable timber in less than twenty years. A comparatively soft wood, yet it is susceptible of the highest polish, and when properly cut and cured is almost indestructible by time.

Fort Ross, in Sonoma county, was settled by the Russians in 1799. Redwood stockades and buildings left by them are in a state of preservation today. Redwood seems equally fitted for the massive construction of fort or bridge or the more graceful outline of the mansion or cottage. And in the realm of art and ornamental work the curly and birdseye burls are invaluable. Furniture fashioned from this material has been the admiration of the world at our late fairs with its beautiful mosaics of native woods, and exquisite designs in delicate tracery on a lady's work box or jewel case.

It is the belief of the practical men, who have lived and worked for years



Shipping Point and Schooner, Greenwood Harbor.

among the redwoods and are perfectly familiar with their habitat, that the quite popular belief in their slow growth and great age is incorrect.

Everything in their known history points to rapid growth, and size cannot be relied upon as a criterion in respect to age. One of the largest trees

cut on the north fork of Big river, 20 feet in diameter, was found to be but 850 years old. And another in Marsh gulch, Navarro, only 6 feet in diameter, was pronounced by expert judges to be 960 years of age. It is to be seriously doubted that there is any tree in our great redwood belt more than 1,000 years old. The late Jerome B. Ford saw evidence conclusive to himself of a third period of growth antedating any destruction by ax or fire.

Mr. Smythe, whose opinion is authority, declares positively that there

condition confronting them, and sentiment, sympathy and logic have each a reasonable appeal. We will all agree that the people of one generation have no right to destroy wantonly for selfish purposes the heritage of another.

But the truths of science and the dictates of reason will justify an intelligent and conscientious use of every natural, perishable product of our country for the benefit of its people. While the man, who with enterprise and industry, makes a business investment is certainly entitled to a



Elk Creek Railroad Around Cliff By the Sea.

is at least proof of such a second growth. The redwood then has, like all things of the earth, a natural life time, and ages long though it be, each tree spared its allotted term of years will one day stand gray and ghostly with bare, appealing branches questioning an unanswering sky.

The sentimentalist, the humanitarian and the practical man of times and affairs have here a problem and a

fair profit in return. But to see alien capital control and devastate this matchless region seems like desecration, and law makers should see to it that none shall benefit by an unbridled access to this great natural treasure only to ravage and destroy and leave behind them an abomination of desolation.

Fire should be used with great care and discretion, if at all. Millions of

feet of the most beautiful timber in the world have been destroyed by the setting out of fire to rapidly clear the underbrush, and hasten the work to sooner realize the coveted dollar. All wanton waste of so beautiful and valuable material for purposes of greed should be punished by law.



Log Dump and Pond, 40 feet to the water.

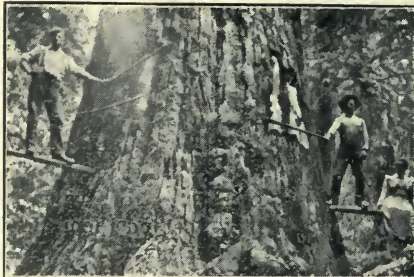
Here and there a reserve should be made, and sacredly guarded, that our children's children may behold the glory of the redwoods.

The ride by slow travel from Sonoma to Del Norte, in the beautiful days of the late spring, vocal here and there with the song of birds and the murmur of trickling waters, fern-fringed and flower-bordered, and fragrant with a thousand green, growing, blossoming things, through one un-

broken forest, where the curse and blight of ax and fire have not yet fallen—where the clean, copper-brown boles of the giant trees made a columned way for horse and rider—on through the more sacred hush of the greater silence of the denser wood, until the leaf-filtered sunlight seemed to fall from vast cathedral windows, through aisles of grandeur most sublime, where had echoed the anthems of ages in living song; this once was the writer's privilege. Do not wonder, then, that the cry and crash of the falling trees touch with a thrill of anguish at least one heart. And only that men and women may be better housed and fed—that children may be better clothed and educated—that the people are more precious than the product, can he be reconciled to their inevitable destruction.



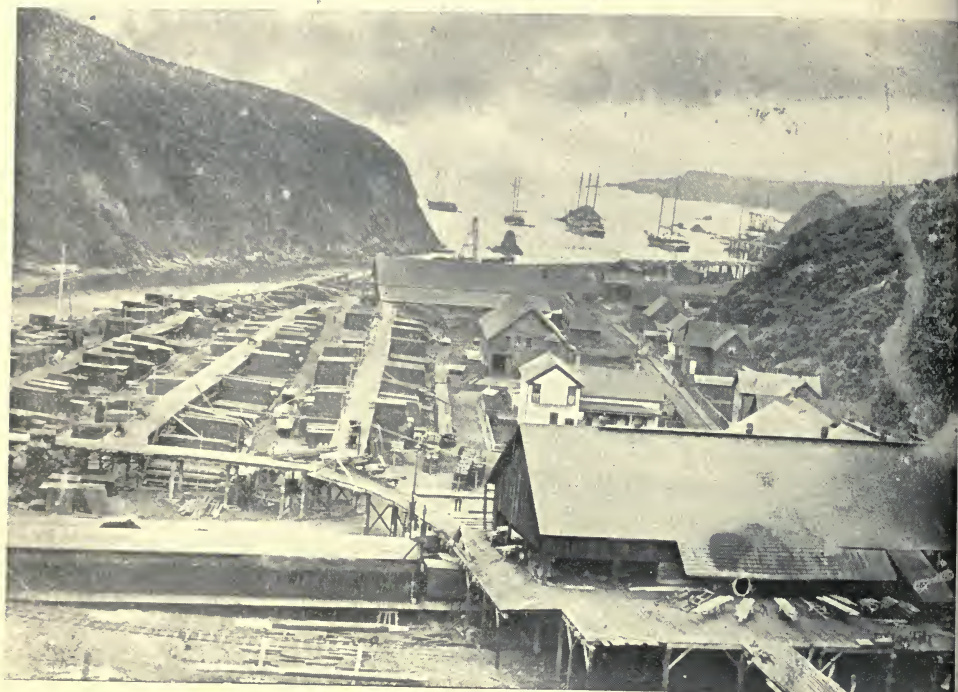
Train Load of Logs.







Redwood stump, in orchard on Navarro Ridge, Mendocino County, covered by English Ivy planted by Mrs. A. A. Gorrell twenty years ago. [Photo by Carpenter]



Albion Lumber Co.'s Mill at Albion



Home of an Albion River Settler.



Home of L. Gonsalves, on Albion River Land.



Grass on Cattle Range in the Redwoods.

[Photo by Fitch.]



After the Freshet, the Patient Oxen. [Photo by Carpenter.]

## A Sketch.

By Laura Gordon Chappelle.

---

A dim still afternoon,  
The wind in pine boughs swaying,  
The smoke of autumn fires  
In cool, dark canyons straying;  
The shout of a merry child,  
The far off cry of a hawk,  
And someone trilling a song  
At the end of the garden walk.

Hillside and forest dim,  
Checkered in light and shadow,  
Indian summer haze,  
The breath of woodland and meadow;  
A maid with penell and book,  
A lad with arrow and bow,  
A watch dog asleep in the sun  
Where the Madronos grow.

The sound of a far off gun,  
The herd-boy's distant calling,  
An echo of woodmans's ax,  
A tree in the wild land falling;  
The mournful call of a dove,  
The whistle of crested quail,  
A fleecy cloud in the sky,  
Still as a phantom sail.

Oh, dreamy afternoons,  
Peaceful and still their ending,  
The cloud-gold of waning suns,  
In light and shadow blending;  
Oh! for the heart of a child,  
Forever and ever to hold,  
Questionless in its faith  
Of a future all untold.

# The Denuded Redwood Lands of Mendocino.

---

A splendid opportunity is offered the industrious homeseeker with limited means to secure a good home of the best of land in the finest and most healthful climate at very little outlay of ready cash. This is in 10,000 acres of denuded redwood timber lands which extend from within a few miles of the ocean to some 15 miles inland. This vast tract has been stripped of its merchantable timber, thus making it no very difficult or expensive matter to clear the greater portion and prepare it for cultivation. When so treated it is the most fertile and productive land in the county and is highly adapted to the raising of all kinds of farm products and particularly the hardier fruits, vegetables and grains. It is the home of the apple, the prune, the cherry and Bartlett pear; all grow to perfection.

This vast region is more or less hilly and in some places broken, but there are many flats, gently sloping mesas and low rolling hills, which when cleared of the underbrush and scattering timber are highly adapted to cultivation; the high land for grass. There are already many settlers on this tract who are contented and prosperous and who are building and hewing out nice homes for themselves. Schools are found every few miles, several county roads and a new railroad traverse the entire tract. The railroad company will carry all farm products and all other freight of the settlers by rail and steamers direct to the markets of San Francisco at reasonable rates. A good market is also found at the many towns along the coast for all kinds of farm products. Refuse lumber for build-



REDWOODS, ANDERSON VALLEY. —NAVARRO RIVER.



RAILROAD TIES AND TAX BARK, READY FOR SHIPMENT.



Sheep Shearing in the Redwood Belt.





On the way to the Mill.



BEFORE THE WIRE CABLE AND STEAM DUMMY.

ing purposes at the Company's mill can be had by settlers at \$4 to \$8 per M. Good water everywhere from springs, creeks and wells. Land in this tract can be purchased at the following terms: \$5, \$10 and \$15 per acre in 40 acre tracts up to suit; one-quarter cash down, balance on 5 years time at 5 per cent interest yearly. The mill companies will give all settlers the preference of work at good wages to assist them in paying for their homes. No land will be sold to be held for speculation, but only to actual settlers. To the industrious man of limited means this is the chance of him life to secure for himself a good home at a little cost. For any further information concerning the lands of Mendocino county, inquire of W. M. PEERY, Real Estate and Insurance Agent; Redemeyer Building, Ukiah, Cal.

—W. M. PEERY.

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## Effaced.

By Nita E. White.

Begone my past! as yesterday,  
 Oblivion found with set of sun,  
 And comes no more with vexed display  
 Of mischief wrought and good  
 undone.



So Thou, oh past, shall buried be,  
 And come no more with gibbering  
 ghosts,  
 To mock, and jibe, and sneer at me  
 And 'waken memories' slumbering  
 hosts.

Goodbye, my past! not all thy pain  
 Was due to my soul's guilt alone;  
 I've wept for others' sins in vain.  
 And borne transgressions not my  
 own.



But now begone! fade like the night,  
 Let memories curtain close the scene,  
 And shut forever from my sight  
 The things that were—things that  
 have been.



Goodbye, dead past, the future lifts,  
 Her radiant hands and beckons me,  
 Through breaking clouds a new light  
 rifts—  
 Goodnight, dead past, farewell to  
 thee.



## EDITORIAL

ANNA MORRISON REED.

“What I have been, I am, in principle and character; and what I am I hope to continue to be. Circumstances or opponents may triumph over my fortunes, but they will not triumph over my temper or my self-respect.”—Daniel Webster.

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At the expense of much labor and thought, and an outlay of five hundred dollars, we present to our patrons the September NORTHERN CROWN. We have been delayed by many things beyond our control. Those who have been

in any way instrumental in that delay will understand, and those who are our friends, knowing the difficulties that have surrounded us and desiring our success, will forgive it.

\*  
\* \*

In 1893, by a correct estimate, the value of the Redwood then standing in Mendocino county, exceeded fifteen million dollars—*more than the assessed value of the whole State of California.*

It is with this belt of timber land, constituting so large an area of our county, that we deal in the present issue of THE NORTHERN CROWN, endeavoring to show by intelligent statement and comprehensive illustration its great value, not only before, but after, the lumberman has gathered the first results of a giant industry, and seemingly devastated a glorious region.

A seeming desolation was left in the wake of the pioneer lumberman, where the first tribute was exacted from our glorious forest, and the waste-fires at the mills, burning for more than 40 years, have consumed wood enough to warm the world. But, ruthless as all this seemed, the partial clearing of the land has made habitable a large area impossible of settlement before.

Berries, of great variety, and edible fungii, will not alone sustain human life, and these were all the natural food products found there, and with game, constituted the only source of living. Cultivation was not possible, although the soil and climatic conditions were unexcelled. Now, even only partially cleared land, affords excellent pasturage, and sheep and cattle raising is a success in the Redwood belt.

Rich as the soil is on the steeper ranges, there is no washing or erosion, as on interior land; a touch of clay in the composition of the soil of higher places prevents this, and the narrow sheep and cattle trails remain intact through all the rains of winter.

Fruit raising is also a success, on partially cleared

as he has done, the force of will, and the unflinching hand of honest toil.

Much of the land already cut-over, will return its price to the buyer, in the stumps and timber left by the lumbermen, much of which can be converted into ties, bolts, staves and pickets. It has been a custom to cut the trees 12 feet, or more, from the base, and these high stumps constitute some of the most valuable redwood, curly and otherwise.

We submit the facts along these lines, in this issue of THE NORTHERN CROWN in the spirit of truth, with more to follow, in the interest of the development, of this part of the world.



THE following request was duly presented to the Board of Supervisors and the sum of \$100.00 voted to us. It is entirely inadequate for the purpose that we are carrying out. We have gone to an expense of \$500.00 to bring out this edition. If the people in mass think we should have the other \$150.00 asked for, we should like to hear from them by letter, or otherwise. We are working to make an honest living and for the interest of Mendocino county, and all northern counties. Our energy, our ability, our time, our very life goes into this constant work—and we have faith enough in the people to believe that they will see that we get the help that we are justly entitled to.

UKIAH, MENDOCINO Co., CAL., August 9, 1905.

To John C. Lane, Chairman, and the Honorable Board of Supervisors, Mendocino County, Gentlemen:—

We, the undersigned taxpayers of Mendocino County, recognizing the able and loyal work done by Mrs. Anna M. Reed for Mendocino County, in bringing its resources and possibilities to the notice of the world, through her periodical THE NORTHERN CROWN, and remembering the honors brought to Mendocino, not only through the founding of this magazine within our territory, but also through her appointment as the first lady in California to be chosen, under Governor Markham, as manager on the ladies commission to the World's Fair of 1892, and the fact that she holds the official acknowledgement of the San Francisco Local World's Fair association, that had it not been for her personal interest and effort in the matter the great city of San Francisco would have had

no available funds to place an exhibition at the Chicago Fair, and that on account of her ability, and unselfish service to the state, she was chosen in the fall of 1893 to deliver the annual address before the State Board of Agriculture at Sacramento, (an honor that has, so far, not been bestowed upon any other woman).

Therefore—in consideration of all this, and that she has explained to us her intention of issuing a special edition of *THE NORTHERN CROWNS*, containing full information and illustration in regard to the reclamation of the cut over Redwood lands, that will induce a settlement of that large domain by a thrifty industrious class of people, who will add to the value of our citizenship, ask of your Honorable Board co-operation and assistance in her plans, by furnishing her from the proper funds two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00) for her purpose which is most worthy and commendable, and we believe will return the investment a hundred fold to our County.

A. C. Burton, Willits Mercantile company by P. I. Lancaster, Tucker & Guest, H. C. Mohn, R. Glenn, Mrs. D. E. Capell, Abbey E. Krebs President, Caspar Lumber company, Albion Lumber company by Miles Standish, W. P. Plummer, L. E. White Lumber company by F. C. Drew, Northwestern Redwood company per E. A. Selfridge, Irvine & Muir Lumber company by H. B. Muir, M. A. Singleton, Mrs. G. W. Burger, Miss Mary Donnelley, Geo. T. Clow H. Thomson, A. N. Rawles, G. W. Johnson, Geo. Gowan, Bank of Fort Br; by J. W. E. Weller, H. F. Milliken, Geo. Switzer, Bank of Willits by W. H. Baechtel cashier, Geo. A. Knight, A. W. Foster, Mrs. J. E. Reilly, C. H. Clow, Mrs. M. Johnson, J. S. Corrigan, W. B. Coombs, H. H. Brown, F. C. Peirsol, Joshua Grindle, W. J. Boyle, W. H. Hodghead, Eugene Brown, E. C. Oppenlander, Edwards Bros., Lucas Bros., Commercial Bank of Ukiah by P. Connelly W. J. Hildreth, John C. Cunningham, E. L. Cunningham, Hutchison & Roeder, F. M. Cunningham, L. O. Morby, Zach Bartlett, James Stitt, T. J. Fine, O. is R. lemyer, H. A. Eldred, W. A. McCormack (by letter).

## To Him.

By Anna M. Reed.

ALL laughter has been madness,  
 since I laughed with you,  
 And love a mockery, and life an irony,  
 Of all the past, your heart alone rang  
 true,  
 Of all the things that did environ me.

I know at last, you taught me all the  
 truth.  
 Life has afforded, in those earlier years,  
 I only feel your presence blessed my  
 youth,  
 And memory hallows all these later  
 tears.

And so, I am so glad that you have  
 lived,  
 Though in this world, no longer you  
 abide,  
 I cannot find it in my heart to grieve,  
 Or hopelessly lament that you have  
 died.

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**Carothers**

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**OYSTER AND  
CHOP HOUSE**

*A Thoroughly Respectable Eating Place  
For Families*

Dressed Chicken, Cold Boiled Ham, Oyster Loaves  
to Take Home

*GLASGO RIGGLE, CHEF*

110 School Street

Ukiah, California

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**O. K. Feed Yard.**

J. V. Ray, Prop.

*Free Camping Grounds*

*HAY AND GRAIN*

*Best care given to all Stock.*

North State Street, Ukiah, Mendocino County, California.

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Only Complete Abstract of Mendocino County's Records  
(Established 1885)

**Mendocino County Abstract Bureau**

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**ROMA HOTEL**

**ON THE ALBION RIDGE**

J. Guenza



Proprietor



# James Stitt

Dealer in All Kinds of  
Lumber . . . .

Also dealer in Shingles, Shakes, Pickets  
Hopoles, Windows, Doors, Etc., Etc.

Building Hardware

Main St., Ukiah, Cal.

# Henry Meyer

Ukiah's • Leading • Tailor

Is now located on State  
Street, Opposite Eagle Block, and is showing the swellest  
line of Spring and summer Styles ever brought to this city.  
His reputation as an up-to-date tailor is never questioned.

## JACK'S OYSTER

AND

## CHOP HOUSE

A REALLY GOOD PLACE  
TO EAT AND DRINK

EVERYBODY KNOWS JACK

## Donohoe

## & Ganter

Ukiah's Most  
Competent Plumbers

Are located on School street,  
south of Masonic hall. All  
tinning plumbing and repair-  
ing promptly done.

## Ukiah Meat Market

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